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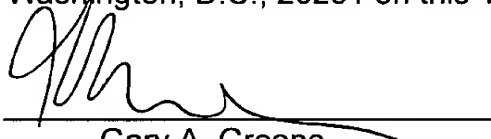
APPLICANTS : Smith et al.
INVENTION : PRODUCTION OF POROUS ARTICLES
ATTORNEYS : Caesar, Rivise, Bernstein, Cohen & Pokotilow, Ltd.
SERIAL NO. : 09/269,999
FILED : June 28, 1999
GROUP : 1615
EXAMINER : Todd D. Ware

This is a Response to Restriction Requirement which includes the following:

1. Transmittal letter
2. Response to Restriction Requirement
3. Return Receipt Postcard

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that the foregoing Response to Restriction Requirement, re:
Application Serial No. 09/269,999 is being deposited with the United States Postal
Service and First Class Mail, postage prepaid, in an envelope addressed to
Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C., 20231 on this 17th day of October, 2000.



Gary A. Greene

S1011 20102



PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE
PATENT EXAMINING DIVISION

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Response to Restriction Requirement

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

In an Office Action dated September 25, 2000, a Restriction Requirement was made under 35 U.S.D. §§121 and 372. The Examiner states that the applicant must elect a single invention of one of Group I directed to claims 11-18 drawn to a method of making a ceramic article, Group II directed to claim 19 drawn to a method of growing bone cells in a ceramic product, or Group III directed to claim 20 drawn to method of adding a drug to the pores of a ceramic article. The Examiner states that Groups I, II, and III, do not relate to a single general inventive concept because Group I does not require ingredients for orthopedic or surgical use nor does it require a pharmaceutical agent.

Group I (claims 11-18) is provisionally elected with traverse. All of claims 12 through 20 depend either directly or indirectly from claim 11, including claims 19 and 20. For the sake of efficiency for both the Patent Office and the applicants, applicants respectfully request that the restriction requirement be withdrawn.

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Based on the above election and traverse, applicants respectfully request an Office Action on the merits of this application.



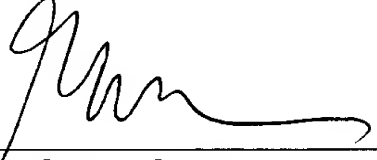
Date: October 17, 2000

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Respectfully submitted,
CAESAR, RIVISE, BERNSTEIN
COHEN & POKOTILOW, LTD.

By 

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